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*E. C. Meade*

Eric A. Meade, REG. NO. 42,876

*November 21, 2003*

DATE

Attorney Docket No. BM45351

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Ruelle, Jean-Louis

Group Art Unit: 1645

Serial No.: 09/889,267

Examiner: Baskar, Padmavathi

Filed: January 17, 2002

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For: Neisseria Meningitidis Antigen

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**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR. § 1.116**

**Introductory Remarks:**

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2003 (herein referred to as "Office Action," Paper No. 11). Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the application in view thereof.

It is believed that entry of this Amendment is timely filed on or before December 22, 2003. Notwithstanding, should this Paper not be considered timely filed, Applicant hereby requests a retroactive extension of time to file for the number of months required to maintain pendency of the Application.